

chemically derivatising the precursor antibody to prevent the carbohydrate chain from returning to the interstitial site so that the resulting derivatised antibody is capable of binding to the immobilised IgG.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the precursor antibody has Fc associated carbohydrate chains which terminate with an N-acetylglucosamine residue.

3. The method of claim 1, [wherein the method includes the step of using β -galactosidase to remove terminal galactose residues from] comprising treating the precursor antibody with β -galactosidase to remove terminal galactose residues.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the chemical derivatising [step] comprises thiolating the antibody in the presence of carbonate.

5. The method of claim 1, [wherein the method includes the step of] comprising separating derivatised antibodies which can associate with one another at a site of the immobilised IgG, from those derivatised antibodies which cannot so associate.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein [said step of] separating the derivatised antibodies is performed by [the use of] Con A chromatography or by pH elution from a Protein A affinity column.

7. [An] A derivatised antibody [as obtainable] made by the method of claim 1, wherein the derivatised antibody [has been] is derivatised to expose a carbohydrate chain thereof, so that the derivatised antibody is capable of binding to the immobilised IgG.

8. The derivatised antibody of claim 7, wherein the carbohydrate chain is an Fc carbohydrate chain.

9. The derivatised antibody of claim 7, wherein the carbohydrate chain terminates with an N-acetylglucosamine residue.

10. The derivatised antibody of claim 7, wherein the carbohydrate chains of the derivatised antibody are capable of specifically binding to a binding site on the [immobilised] derivatised antibody, when said derivatised antibody is immobilised.

11. The derivatised antibody of claim 7, wherein the immobilised IgG is a galactosyl IgG.

12. The derivatised antibody of claim 7, wherein the derivatised antibody is conjugated to a label, toxin, drug, prodrug or effector.

13. The derivatised antibody of claim 7, wherein the derivatised antibody is specific for an inflammatory mediator.

14. The derivatised antibody of claim 7, wherein the derivatised antibody is formulated for [use in a method of] medical treatment or for diagnosis of a condition associated with the immobilised IgG.

15. The derivatised antibody of claim 14, wherein the derivatised antibody provides for [use in] the diagnosis or treatment of an autoimmune disorder.

16. The derivatised antibody of claim 15, wherein the autoimmune disorder is selected from the group consisting of: rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile arthritis, Crohn's disease, type I insulin dependent diabetes, type II diabetes, sarcoidosis, erythema nodosum leprosum, and tuberculosis.

17. The antibody of claim 16, wherein the antibody is formulated for [use in the] diagnosis or treatment of erosive joint disease and the immobilised IgG is anti-type II collagen IgG.

18. [Use of a derivatised antibody of claim 7, for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or diagnosis of a condition associated with immobilised IgG] A medicament comprising the derivatised antibody of Claim 7, which medicament treats or diagnoses a condition associated with immobilized IgG.